

BLACK ECONOMIC COUNCIL

January 8, 2010

The Honorable Julius Genachowski
Chairman, Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street SW, Room 8-B201
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Chairman Genachowski and Commissioners:

I am contacting you on behalf of the Black Economic Council, a non-profit organization that focuses on business formation, job creation, and access to capital, financial fitness and equal opportunity for employment within the Black community. I expressed my concern about net neutrality in a letter I sent to you in October, and wanted to reiterate my thoughts given the potential impact the Commission's proposed rules will have on broadband Internet use.

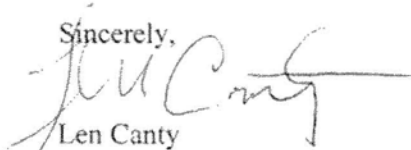
As an organization committed to economic empowerment of low- and moderate-income Black community, we have witnessed the many great benefits of broadband. It's a phenomenal educational tool that connects people to the world and the economy like nothing else can. The Internet has broadened the horizons and improved the lives of many individuals we serve.

This is why we are hesitant to support policies such as the net neutrality. Our concern is that increased regulation of the Internet could threaten the investment and innovation that have made it so successful, and in so doing, will threaten the ability of Blacks to pay for access to it.

The Black community still sees a digital divide although we are working to close it. We must not move backwards. Those without broadband access in the 21st century will fall even further behind in our global economy, and we know the Commission does not want this to happen.

We thank you for your support of universal broadband and encourage you to vigorously pursue this goal. However, please give careful analysis to net neutrality and the affect it could have.

Thank you for considering these views.

Sincerely,

Len Canty
Chairman
Black Economic Council

484 LAKEPARK AVE., PMB #338 • OAKLAND, CA. 94610 • (866) 856-4570